## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the Mational Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Special Meeting of the East German
Academy of Sciences, Berlin

DATE DISTR. 20 May 1953

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES 25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.

THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

- 1. On 22 and 23 January 1953, a special meeting of the German Academy of Sciences (formerly the Preussische Akademie) took place in Berlin. The importance and political nature of the meeting are indicated by the fact the East German Deputy Minister President Walter Ulbricht, Culture Minister Paul Wandel, President of the East German Parliament Johannes Diechmann, and member of the SED Politburo Fred Oelsner were present and participating. Both Ulbricht and Oelsner sounded the government leynote future work at the Academy must be directed to practical ends, turning its efforts to developments directly applicable to increased production and the socialist economy.
- 2. The programmatic speech was made by Professor Hans Ertel and summarized as follows:
  The Presidium of the German Academy has formulated a "Primary task of the
  Academy of Sciences in the construction of Socialism". Highlights of this are
  the following: The Academy will pay particular attention to the goals of the
  Five Year Plan. Although the Academy is aware of the requirements of basic
  research, it will orient its work more than before to the needs of production.
  Because close cooperation is a basic requirement for this, the Academy asks
  all scientists and workers for faithful cooperation. The development of new
  forces for scientific research will be improved by the introduction of a
  scientific candidate's position (wissenschaftliche Aspirantur). The Academy
  will help in the development of the national economy. The Academy looks to
  Soviet science as an example and precept. The following nine points will be
  the guiding program of the Academy:
  - 1. Heavy Industry.

The development of heavy industry is the first requisite for increased production. The Academy considers it its mission to assist in solving problems confronting the heavy industry and deems it essential that a number of special committees be formed which will be charged with working out these problems. The responsibility for overall guidance will rest with the various committees.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	7	AIR	X	FBI	X	AEC			

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

SECRET CONTROL/US OFFICIALS	ONLY	 05.
- 2 -	25X <sup>2</sup>	

The following committee are suggested:

- a) Committee for metallurgy
- b) Committee for heavy machine construction
- c) Committee for power supply
- d) Committee for coal mining
- e) Committee for chemical raw materials
- f) Committee for mineral deposits

## 2. Social Sciences

By concentrating on research work in philosophy, history (especially the history of the German people), economy, and law, the Academy in 1953 will extend considerably its activities in the social sciences field.

- 3. Increasing the productiveness of peoples owned enterprises. The Academy will submit suggestions to the management of a number of leading peoples owned enterprises through which the problem of increased productivenoss can be solved by introduction of scientific innovations. The aim is the attainment of a higher production level than prescribed by the Five Year Plan.
- 4. Contacts with enterprises.

The Academy will enter into contracts with leading enterprises to further, through advice and specialized research, the research work these enterprises are engaged in.

5. Advancement of the textile industry.

In the middle of 1952, through its institute for fiber research, the Academy submitted to the synthetic fiber industry detailed scientific-technical data concerning a new fiber which is especially well suited to replace wool. The Academy is in the process of setting up a committee which will further and control technical development of synthetic fibers to be used for replacing wool.

6. Plastics (Synthetic, high molecular weight materials).

Considering that the metallurgical resources of East Germany are too small to satisfy demands, it is essential to employ plastics at an increasing rate in place of iron and nonferrous metal. Wood also will have to be replaced by plastics. To improve the situation, the Academy will increase its efforts in the field of chemical research, especially research in the field of polyesters and mixed polymers. It is intended to make available in the course of the present Five Year Plan new plastics which can be used in the place of iron and wood in machine construction and construction work.

7. Inorganic chemistry.

The institute for inorganic chemistry of the Academy will work on a number of problems confronting the inorganic chemical industry. Research work will be performed in the field of laws of condensation and hydrolysis of polybasic acids and acid salts. After having gained knowledge of these laws, which are almost unknown up to now, it will be possible to produce new plastics and construction materials based on silicon from silicate raw material, which is readily available.

SECRET CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1

It is expected that in 1953 a process for the production of magnesiumhydrosilicates will be made known, which will be a perfect substitute for calcium. Calcium is difficult to obtain in East Germany.

Through its regearch work in the field of mineral salts, the Academy will show how lye solution, a waste product of the potassium industry, can be put to full industrial exploitation.

8. Research in physics, mathematics and biology.

The physics institutes of the Academy will concentrate their research on scientific production problems. This applies especially to the institutes for gas discharge physics, radiation sources (Strahlungsquellen), physical hydrography, oscillation research, optics and precision mechanics, crystal physics and solid materials (Festkoerper) research.

Statistical methods to be used in the industrial output control will be developed in the field of mathematics. Mathematical aids will be developed in the field of machine construction, and development of computing machines, utilizing new electrical aids, is contemplated.

Studies concerning the improvement of nomographical aids for technicians and engineers have reached a state of advanced development.

In cooperation with the Academy for Agricultural Science (s), special problems in the field of plant breeding, cultivation, plant diseases and their control will be tackled.

## 9. Medicine.

The Academy will submit to the ministry concerned an exact plan dealing with the intensification of research, control and treatment of diseases causing a premature decrease in the population's working capacity. Theoretical research in the field of cancer control will be improved. The Academy will supply scientific data in the field of dietetics. The aim is to improve the population's state of health, to cut down on time lost on account of disease, and to speed up recovery of convalescents. Finally, the Academy will improve coordination between medical doctors and the pharmaceutical industry as far as quality and quantity of required drugs is concerned.

- 3. Ulbricht violently attached the Academy of Sciences in his speech. His particular targets were the Academy administration, the obsolete work done at the Academy, and the need to include scientists in the progress of the national economy. Oelsner attached the Academy for its tendency to look West: "The basis of research is dialectic materialism which exists only in the East. Science must be undertaken in East Germany and not at congresses in the West."
- 4. Professor Walter Friedrich, the president of the Academy, delivered the unual confession of sin: The Academy recognizes its past mistales and promises improvement. His speech was described as a shameful piece of criticism and selfcriticism. Prof. Ertel, the vice president of the Academy, originally refused to deliver the programmatic speech but was "convinced" a few days before the meeting that it would be highly advisable to give the speech. He complained later that the East German newspapers had omitted the first part of his speech which pointed out that the basic requirement of an Academy was pure research.

25X1

SECRET CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY